

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

HARPER.

The number opens with an interesting paper on some of the famous localities and antiquities of South Carolina in the vicinity of the Ashley and Cooper. Mr. Fields' chapters of pleasant gossip on Barry Cornwall and his friends are concluded with copious extracts from the correspondence of the former. It is an interesting fact noted by Mr. Fields that when Procter was obliged to travel about the kingdom as Commissioner of Customs, his pocket companion was always a cheap reprint of Emerson's "Essays," which he found such agreeable reading that he never left home without it. Longfellow's "Hyperion" was another of his favorite books during the years he was duty as a commissioner. A succinct account of the "Progress of the Exact Sciences" in this country during the "First Century of the Republic" is given by President Barnard, in which may be found some interesting notices of eminent living scientific Americans. Of Professor Peirce, he speaks as follows: "Professor Benjamin Peirce, of Harvard University, a pupil and friend of Bowditch, still in the vigor of life, stands hardly second to his master in the originality and value of his contributions to mathematical literature. His *Analytic Mechanics*, which is professedly an attempt to consolidate the latest researches and the most exalted forms of thought of the greatest geometers into a consistent and uniform treatise, is more than it professes to be. It is rather an attempt successfully accomplished to carry back the fundamental principles of the science to a more profound and central origin, and thence to shorten the path to the most fruitful forms of research. The most remarkable and most original of Professor Peirce's publications is the description of a new mathematical method, called by him 'Linear Associative Algebra.' This method seems to be a step in the direction of quaternions, but a larger one. It therefore oversteps the power of human conception to grasp its essence, while its visible machinery is algebraic and in the modes of its use has analogies both with algebra and with quaternions. The method is of too recent origin to have been largely developed in its capabilities or tested in its applications." The services of our townsmen, Mr. Lewis M. Rutherford, in the department of practical astronomy, are referred to in terms of just appreciation, and those of Dr. Henry Draper, in the same branch of science, are thus described: "Another American astronomer, whose ingenuity in the construction of instruments is no less remarkable than his skill in the use of them, Dr. Henry Draper, has devoted himself to the improvement of reflecting telescopes. The use of silvered glass for astronomical spectra had been suggested by Foucault as being a material lighter and less brittle than spectrum metal, and as reflecting a larger proportion of the light; and he had practically illustrated the value of this suggestion by actually grinding and silvering one or two such spectra with his own hands. With no light to guide him but the knowledge of these facts, Dr. Draper undertook an investigation of the best mode of proceeding in the construction of such spectra, recording the results of his experiments as he went on; and having had length of time at his disposal, he published his results in the *American Journal of Science*, with a fullness of detail that was to win him a highly favorable reputation by his paper on the exposition of the principles of that science. He is a clear and independent thinker, and his writings are marked by the characteristics of his mind. The first essay treats of the sources and the kind of water that are required for large communities, the quantity, and the means of supplying it to the public. With regard to the quantity of water made use of, it would appear that there is a great difference in the habits of large cities. Professor Corson puts it down at about 10 gallons a head a day for drinking and common domestic purposes, and as much more for flushing the sewers, and washing the streets. Ten gallons in addition may be allowed for the trade. About 30 gallons a head a day is accordingly the least estimate when there is no extra demand, and that is about the amount provided in London, New-York, however, says Professor Corson, does not find 300 gallons too much. In ancient Rome, he estimates the supply at 332 gallons a day. In order to insure pure drinking water for daily use he recommends in addition to charcoal filters, that it should be boiled and left to stand in stone vessels. Impure water may also be purified to a very considerable extent by an infusion, of tea for instance, which is especially useful in malarious localities. It is the system which has been practiced for a thousand years in China.—The essay on "Sewerage" presents some important suggestions on the utilization of waste matter for agricultural purposes, but leaves the subject embarrassed with many difficulties for which scientific science has not yet discovered a practical solution.

THE LITTLE CLASSICS. Edited by BOSSETTE JOHNSON. 16 vols. James L. Osgood & Co.

The completion of this admirable series of selections from the best popular specimens of English literature, including many of the most eminent British and American writers, calls for a distinct recognition of their rare and peculiar merits. The work makes no pretension to examining the fine master-pieces, whether in prose or poetry, that are found among the minor writers, but presents a rich variety of favorite pieces in both kinds, that to the wayfarer scholar, or summer visitor at country houses, it almost serves the purpose of a portable library. The editor has evinced sound learning, excellent judgment, and a catholic, but refined taste in his choice of materials. They comprise many of the earlier standard tales and poems which have delighted the youth of the country for more than one generation, while the bulk of the volume, perhaps, is made up from writers of a more recent period, with copious specimens of living authors whose popularity is of comparatively modern date. The contents of the whole collection are remarkable for their pure and elevated tone, their excellent literary character, and their freedom from affectation, which is so often the bane of juvenile literature. The double series of Helmholtz affords a convenient means of studying the effect of partial or complete interference between sound waves which differ in phase at the point of origin, but there has been hitherto no instrumental means devised for determining the amount of difference of phase which exists between two waves originating in a common phase at the same origin, but brought by different and unequal paths to the point of interference. This want Professor Mayer has supplied, and in doing so has at the same time provided the most exact mode hitherto devised of measuring the wave length corresponding to any pitch, and of ascertaining the velocity of sound in the air or in any gaseous medium. The determinations are made by means of the spherulites formed in the flame of a flame micrometer—so ingenious in conception as it is to ascertain velocities with which the fixed stars are approaching the earth or receding from it. It has first been experimentally proved in the researches of Professor Mayer, that he has the accent of the brotherhood to write Byron, Shelley, and Keats—*the true sons of song*, when they can never be called in question.—(D�ppelgärtner's Magazine).

"Mr. Longfellow's poem, as the name indicates, is subjective, and it is upon the assumption of its truth that Mr. Higgins has founded his inferences as to the absolute velocities with which the fixed stars are approaching the earth or receding from it. It has first been experimentally proved in the researches of Professor Mayer, that he has the accent of the brotherhood to write Byron, Shelley, and Keats—*the true sons of song*, when they can never be called in question.—(D�ppelgärtner's Magazine).

THE GALAXY. A PAPER OF THE MONTH. THE MIRROR OF A MIND. A POEM. BY ALGERNON SIDNEY LOGAN. 16mo, cloth, extra, \$1.50.

The "Mirror" reflects the phases of a mind too deeply immersed with sadness, but as free from the violence, cynicism, and paradox of which we have had so much as the phrase is free from exaggeration and falsehood. The author is a poet who has the accent of the brotherhood to write Byron, Shelley, and Keats—*the true sons of song*, when they can never be called in question.—(D�ppelgärtner's Magazine).

INDIA AND ITS NATIVE PRINCES. TRAVELS IN CENTRAL INDIA, by LOUIS ROUSSEAU, edited by Lieutenant COLLEGE. 4to, pp. 579. Scribner, Armstrong, & Co.

The external array of this superb volume which vie in luxury with the treasures of Solomon is in admirable keeping with the variety and interest of its contents. It is certain that no more attractive and beautiful specimens of engraving and letter-press will be found among the holiday offerings of the present season, but they are in no wise superior to the splendid descriptive sketches which form the staple of the work. Rarely has a volume borne the imprint of an American publisher, combining in so high a degree the best qualities of a library of information and a cabinet of Art. The author, M. Rousseau, has devoted many years to the study of the architectural monuments, the religious faith and worship, and the systems of civilization prevailing in the East, and has here presented the ripened fruits of his researches in a style no less remarkable for its elegance than its force. In the course of his extensive travels in the most important kingdoms and principalities of India, his attention was especially directed to the courts and countries of the native rulers, and to the social and domestic peculiarities of the primitive Oriental populations. The record of his experience affords a store of valuable knowledge, comprising a variety of novel and interesting details, in addition to the familiar facts presented in the reports of previous travelers. M. Rousseau embarked on his voyage of exploration and discovery at Marseilles in the Summer of 1861, arriving at Bombay in the early part of the month of July. His first impressions of the city were anything but favorable. The rain poured in torrents, and the ships and the shore, concealed by the mist, presented only a melancholy aspect. On leaving the steamer, he took his place in a boat rowed by half-a-dozen natives, almost entirely naked, who soon landed him on a handsome stone pier. There was no carriage or shelter in the neighborhood, and he was obliged to make his way through the mud to a hotel in a dark and narrow street, and repulsive with filth. This was kept by a Parsee, and without a wretched appearance was the best of the kind in Bombay. A portrait of the host is given on the margin of the page, whose grave and reverend physiognomy, with turban and spectacles, might easily be mistaken for that of an Oriental doctor of divinity, or a magistrate of some high court of judicature. After dinner, the traveler was accosted by an important looking personage, carefully dressed, whom he at first took for some rich gentleman of the country. He made him the most energetic salamis, and held forth in his hand a bundle of papers, one of which he showed him to be a confirmation of the possession as one of the honestest men in the world, who solicited the privilege of being his servant. Although the certificate was no doubt a fabrication, the man was accepted by us like a real jewel.

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